Report on employment situation

282. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has prepared two separate reports on the employment situation in the last year;

(b) if so, the major differences between the two reports regarding the extent of unemployment in the country and strategies for dealing with them; and

(c) what concrete measures have been taken by the Planning Commission to implement the recommendations contained in these two reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Task Force on Employment Opportunities, set up by the Planning Commission, submitted its report in July 2001. The special Group on Targeting Ten Million Employment Opportunities per year over the Tenth Plan period, also set up by the Planning Commission, submitted its report in May 2002.

(b) The Task Force on Employment Opportunities estimated employment and made employment projections on usual status basis whereas the Special Group estimated and projected employment on current daily status (CDS) basis.

The Task Force emphasized at sectoral reforms to expand organized sector as an instrument to improve quality of employment. The Special Group has stressed upon improving productivity of unorganized sector for improving quality of employment.

(c) The Prime Minister announced at the Economic Advisory Council 13th July, 2002 meeting that an action plan implement salient recommendations of the Report of Special Group will be prepared.